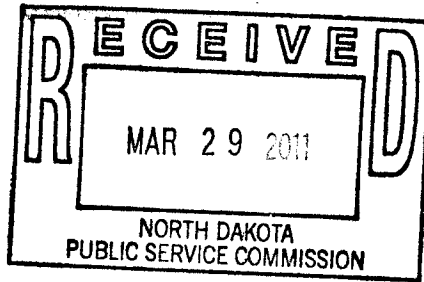


STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Northern States Power Company
2011 Electric Rate Increase
Application

Northern States Power Company
2012 Electric Rate Increase
Application



PU-10-657

OAH File No. 20110014

PU-11-55

NOTICE OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE

TO: Counsel for the applicant, commission advisory staff, and commission advocacy staff, as well as to any intervenors or others who would participate in the hearing for these matters whose participation may be realized after the issuance of this notice:

Please take notice that a prehearing conference on these two matters has been scheduled to be held as a telephone conference on Tuesday, April 12, 2011, beginning at 9:00 a.m. (CDT). At that time the hearing officer will place a call to conference participants at the following telephone numbers unless otherwise notified (Mr. Loftus at (612) 215-4501, Mr. Gruman at (701) 328-2421, and Ms. Jeffcoat-Sacco at (701) 328-2407); and he will place a call to other participants if necessary.

The purpose of the prehearing conference is to consider and decide matters necessary or desirable to facilitate and expedite the hearing on these administrative matters scheduled to be heard beginning on August 9, 2011, to provide a just, speedy, and inexpensive disposition of these matters. The conference attendees will discuss with the hearing officer consolidation of applications, discovery, issues, witnesses, documentary evidence, anticipated motions, pre-filed

testimony, and other preliminary matters as necessary. Opportunity will be given counsel and other participants to discuss any of the problems confronting them.

The prehearing conference will be digitally recorded, and will be conducted in an informal manner.

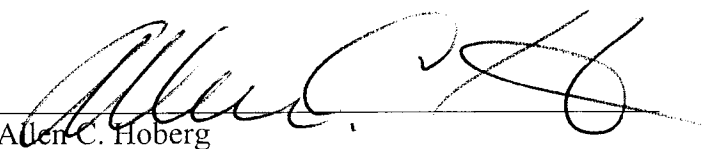
At the conclusion of the prehearing conference, the hearing officer will issue a prehearing order reflecting any action taken at the prehearing conference in which he will set a schedule for pre-hearing events and give direction as to the procedures or issues for the hearing.

Attendance at the prehearing conference is necessary to result in an orderly and timely disposition of this matter. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Dated at Bismarck, North Dakota, this 28th day of March, 2011.

State of North Dakota
Public Service Commission

By: _____


Allen C. Hoberg
Administrative Law Judge
Hearing Officer
Office of Administrative Hearings
2911 North 14th Street – Suite 303
Bismarck, North Dakota 58503
Telephone: (701) 328-3200

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT NOTIFICATION: A party shall promptly notify the Public Service Commission in writing if the party or a witness to be called by the party has a disability which will require auxiliary aids or services at the hearing so that the Commission can make appropriate accommodation prior to the hearing. Any request for an interpreter must also be made in writing to the Public Service Commission. Any request for aids, services, or an interpreter should be as specific as possible about what is required by the party or witness. Also, please send a copy of the notice or request to the administrative law judge.

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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PU-11-55

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the **NOTICE OF**

PREHEARING CONFERENCE was mailed, regular mail, on the 28 day of March 2011, to:

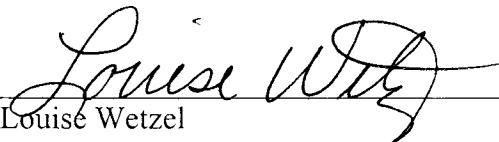
Matt Loftus
Assistant General Counsel
Xcel Energy Services, Inc.
414 Nicollet Mall, 5th Floor
Minneapolis, MN 55401

and that a true and correct copy of the above documents was mailed, inside mail, at the State
Capitol, on the 28 day of March 2011, to:

Illona Jeffcoat-Sacco
Executive Secretary
Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Mark Gruman
Legal Counsel
Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
Allen C. Hoberg, Administrative Law Judge


Louise Wetzel